Description of Saint Paul's Form of Government

The city charter provides for a municipal corporation governed by an elected chief executive, the mayor, and an elected legislative body, the city council. The form of government is commonly referred to as "strong mayor-council." Elections are held in November of odd-numbered years, with a four-year term for the mayor and four-year terms for councilmembers. Each of the seven councilmembers is elected from a separate ward; the seven wards are approximately equal in population.

The mayor recommends appointments for department/office directors and members of boards and commissions for council approval, and is responsible for the direction and control of departments and offices. The mayor recommends policies and budgets to the city council. The mayor exercises all powers and performs all executive duties given by the city charter, city ordinances and state laws. The mayor has the authority to veto council actions. The council can override the mayor's veto with a minimum of five votes.

The council is the legislative body, setting policies by enacting ordinances and resolutions. It can monitor and maintain liaison with community groups to assure adequate citizen participation. The council analyzes, adopts and monitors the city budget. Councilmembers prepare and promote the city's legislative program. They serve on boards and commissions of certain intergovernmental agencies.

Elected Officials Appointed Officials

Office Mayor	Name Randy C. Kelly	Term Expires 01-01-2006
Councilmembers:		
District 1	Jerry Blakey	01-01-2004
District 2	Christopher Coleman	01-01-2004
District 3	Patrick Harris	01-01-2004
District 4	Jay Benanav	01-01-2004
District 5	Jim Reiter	01-01-2004
District 6	Daniel Bostrom	01-01-2004
District 7	Kathy Lantry	01-01-2004

Department/Office	Director's Name	Term Expires
Citizen Services	Donald Luna	*
City Attorney	Manuel Cervantes	*
Financial Services	Matt Smiht	*
Fire and Safety Services	Tim Fuller	04-02-2003
Human Rights	Tyrone Terrill	*
Human Resources	Angie Nalezny	*
License Inspec. Env. Protection	Roger Curtis	*
Deputy Mayor	Dennis Flaherty	*
Parks and Recreation	Bob Bierscheid	*
Planning and Econ. Development	Martha Fuller	*
Police	William Finney	07-17-2004
Public Libraries	Gina La Force	Classified Service
Public Works	Bob Sandquist	*
RiverCentre	Bill Huepenbecker	**
Technology and Mgmt Serves.	Karen Johnson	*
Regional Water Services	Bernie Bullert	Classified Service

Serves at pleasure of the Mayor Serves at pleasure of RiverCentre Authority